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Judge attacks American 'oppression'

By Israel Shenker
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NEW YORK — Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas warns in a new book that revolution may prove the only honorable alternative to oppression by the American establishment.

In *Points of Rebellion*, a 97-page volume scheduled for publication by Random House on Feb. 19, the justice says:

"George III was the symbol against which our founders made a revolution now considered bright and glorious . . . we must realize that today's establishment is the new George III. Whether it will continue

to adhere to his tactics, we do not know. If it does, the redress, honored in tradition, is also revolution."

The justice acknowledges that violence has no constitutional sanction. "But where grievances pile high and most of the elected spokesmen represent the establishment," he writes, "violence may be the only effective response."

Whether the revolution proves violent depends on how wise the establishment is, the justice writes. "If, with its stockpile of arms it resolves to suppress the dissenters, America will face, I fear, an awful ordeal."

Arguing in the book for a radical "restructuring," the 61-year old jus-

tice attacks numerous targets: the Pentagon, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency, former presidents Truman and Johnson, government and corporate bureaucracy, racist practices by police, employers and educators.

Douglas has long been the foremost court defender of interpretation favoring citizen's rights, using his own technical virtuosity for social ends. This often leads him to dissent, especially when colleagues might favor what President Nixon calls "strict construction."

"The modern day dissenters and protesters are functioning as the loyal opposition functions in England," Douglas declares in his book.